#### **Continued Training**

Officers will receive ongoing training in proactive enforcement tactics. This will include training in officer safety, courtesy, cultural diversity, search and seizure, and interpersonal communication skills. Training programs will emphasize the need to respect the right of all citizens to be free from unreasonable government intrusion.

### Complaints of Bias-Based Policing

Any person may file a complaint with the Department if they feel they have been stopped or searched based on racial, ethnic, or gender-based profiling. No person shall be discouraged, intimidated or coerced against filing such a complaint nor shall any person be discriminated against for filing such a complaint. The complaint may be filed in person, by mail, or by phone. All complaints of bias-based policing shall be investigated by Internal Affairs and the person filing the complaint will be notified of the outcome of the investigation.

For more information or to report a complaint of Bias-Based Profiling, please contact Internal Affairs at (954) 457-1416.



400 S. Federal Highway Hallandale Beach, FL 33009 Phone: 954-457-1400 Fax: 954-457-1420 www.cohb.org



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# HALLANDALE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### **BIAS-BASED POLICING**

A Guide for Community
Education and Awareness

# Biased-Based Profiling & Reasonable Suspicion?

Bias-based profiling is the selection of individuals for enforcement action based solely on a trait common to a group. This includes, but is not limited to race, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, age, cultural group, or any other identifiable group.

Bias-based profiling often leads to allegations of violations of constitutional and/or civil rights. It undermines legitimate law enforcement efforts, fosters distrust of law enforcement, and invites outside scrutiny of agency practices.

Reasonable suspicion exists when there are articulable facts or circumstances which would lead a reasonable law enforcement officer, faced with the circumstances as they exist at the time, to suspect that a crime was committed, is in the process of being committed, or is about to be committed.

This brochure is designed to educate the public by defining bias-based policing and what action to take if you believe you have been a victim of bias-based policing.

## Our policy regarding Bias-Based Policing

It is the policy of the HBPD to patrol in a proactive manner, to vigorously pursue the investigation of suspicious persons and circumstances, and to actively enforce the law while insisting that citizens will only be stopped or detained when there exists reasonable suspicion to believe a violation of the law has been, is being, or is about to be committed.

This policy is intended to assist law enforcement in accomplishing its objectives in a way that respects the dignity of all persons while still sending a strong message of deterrence and to assure all in the community the HBPD will appropriately address all relevant issues with which it is presented.

It is this proactive enforcement that keeps citizens free from victimization by crime, streets and highways safe to travel upon, and deters, detects or apprehends those who would violate the law.

The City of Hallandale Beach is an Equal Opportunity Employer

#### **Proactive Patrolling**

The HBPD is charged with and committed to protecting the rights of all citizens, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, physical disability, religion or other belief system. Because of the nature of law enforcement, officers are required to be observant, to identify unusual or suspicious occurrences and violations of law, and to take appropriate action when such situations present themselves.

Officers are required to use skills developed through training, experience and knowledge in order to identify suspicious circumstances, unusual occurrences and violations of the law and act according to the situation.

Officers shall patrol in a proactive manner when a belief that a crime was committed, is about to be committed or is in the process of being committed. This proactive approach aids in the detection and apprehension of criminals, maintains the safety of our streets, and protects our citizens and community from crime.

The basis for any and all enforcement action will be strictly based on illegal or improper activity. Initiating any action based solely on a person's race, color, creed, religion, gender, lifestyle orientation, or physical handicap, is strictly prohibited, and is cause for department disciplinary action.